

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 039409

THE FOL TEL FROM TOKYO DATED FEB 21, 1974 TO SECSTATE
WASHDC INFO NAHA SECDEF WASHDC JCS WASHDC CNO WASHDC
CINPAC HONO CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI COMSUBPAC PEARL HARBOR
COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JA COMSEVENTHFLT YOKUSUKA JA COMNAVFORJAPAN
YOKUSUKA JA IS REPTED:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2345

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TECH, JA

SUBJECT: STA PROBLEMS AND SSN MONITORING

REFS: A. TOKYO 1653 DTG 050910Z FEB 74

B. TOKYO 1996 DTG 131127Z FEB 74

C. TOKYO 2318 DTG 210650Z FEB 74

SUMMARY: EMBASSY TAKING VARIOUS MEASURES TO EMPHASIZE URGENCY
SSN MONITORING PROBLEM AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOJ. CHARGE
EMPHASIZING TO OKAWARA NECESSITY OF LIMIT TO PERIOD OF
CESSATION OF SSN VISITS. AEC REP EXPLORING DETAILS OF NEW
MONITORING SYSTEM WITH STA OFFICIALS. EMBASSY REQUESTING
DISPATCH OF USN OFFICER TO PROVIDE INFO ON RAMIFICATIONS FOR
USN OF CONTINUED DEFERRALS. EMBASSY RESERVING OPTION TO
ESCALATE PRESSURE TO HIGHER LEVELS OF GOJ UNTIL MORE INFO
AVAILABLE. END SUMMARY.

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1. FOLLOWING DESCRIBES MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY EMBASSY IN EFFORT CONVEY OUR VIEW TO GOJ OF URGENCY OF EARLY REESTABLISHMENT OF SSN MONITORING SYSTEM BY GOJ.

2. IN ADDITION TO REPEATED ORAL APPROACHES BY EMBOFFS AT VARIOUS WORKING LEVELS OF FONOFF, CHARGE HAS EXPLORED SUBJECT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRGEN OKAWARA, EACH TIME REITERATING POSSIBILITY OF EMERGENCY WHICH COULD FORCE US TO BRING IN SSN ON VERY SHORT NOTICE, AND FACT THAT PERIOD SSN'S CAN REFRAIN FROM PORT CALL HAS DEFINITE OPERATIONAL LIMITS. REACTION OF OKAWARA HAS BEEN TO AGREE WITH URGENCY OF SITUATION BUT ALSO TO PLEAD INABILITY TO SET DEFINITE LIMIT ON TIME NEEDED FOR STA TO ERECT NEW MONITORING SYSTEM. AT LATEST ENCOUNTER WITH OKAWARA FEBRUARY 21 CHARGE ASKED WHAT WERE RESULTS OF GOJ INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO THIRD COUNTRIES CONCERNING MONITORING SYSTEMS THEY EMPLOYED FOR PORTS VISITED BY US SSN'S. OKAWARA SAID THAT THE CONSENSUS OF THEIR SURVEY WAS THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WERE LEAVING MONITORING OF SSN'S TO US. CHARGE THEN ASKED IF OKAWARA THOUGHT STA WAS DOING ALL IT COULD TO GENERATE URGENT ACTION ON THE MATTER. OKAWARA RESPONDED THAT STA DIRGEN MORIYAMA FULLY AWARE OF URGENCY AND BUSILY APPLYING LASH TO HIS SUBORDINATES. CHARGE INFORMED OKAWARA THAT IF GOJ WAS PLANNING TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST TO USG TO CEASE VISITS, THEN SUCH REQUEST SHOULD INCLUDE A DEFINITE TIME LIMIT AND INDICATE THAT GOJ HAD DEVELOPED PROCEDURE TO COPE WITH EMERGENCY SSN VISIT.

3. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY HAS BEEN PURSUING SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS WITH STA PRIMARILY THROUGH AEC REP WHO HAS DISCUSSED URGENCY OF PROBLEM WITH NEW ATOMIC BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL IHARA. AEC REP HAS ALSO DISCUSSED PROBLEM WITH STA ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER TAKEYASU. BOTH IHARA AND TAKEYASU CONFIRMED STA'S FULL COMPREHENSION OF URGENCY OF RESTORATION OF MONITORING SYSTEM AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. ACCORDING TO VICE MINISTER TAKEYASU, TEAMS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO SASEBO AND YOKOSUKA TO INSPECT EQUIPMENT AND COLLECT SAMPLES TO VERIFY NO DAMAGE FROM PREVIOUS VISITS. MAIN PROBLEM WAS IN GETTING STAFFS OF RESEARCH INSTITUTE CHOSEN BY STA TO CONDUCT ANALYSES TO ACCEPT JOB. TAKEYASU FELT THAT CALL BY CHARGE ON STA MINISTER

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MORIYAMA WOULD BE PREMATURE SINCE NOT ONLY MORIYAMA BUT OTHERS IN TANAKA CABINET ALREADY AWARE AND WERE CONCERNED THAT JCP USING MONITORING ISSUE AS PRETEXT FOR ATTACK ON MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY. DURING MORIYAMA'S ABSENCE IN WASHINGTON, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY NIKAI DO, AS ACTING STA MINISTER, HAD ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO STA ON RAPID RESTORATION OF MONITORING CAPABILITY. FEBRUARY 22 AEC REP SCHEDULED TO SEE IHARA TO GO OVER FURTHER DETAILS OF PROGRESS IN ESTABLISHING

NEW MONITORING SYSTEM.

4. EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTING BY SEPTTEL (REF C) VISIT OF USN EXPERT TO DISCUSS GENERAL OPERATIONAL DIFFICULTIES CAUSED TO USN BY CONTINUING DEFERRAL OF SSN VISITS TO JAPAN. HOPEFULLY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THIS OFFICER WILL HELP EMBASSY DEVELOP EVEN MORE PERSUASIVE CASE FOR GOJ CRASH PROGRAM TO RESTORE MONITORING SYSTEM.

5. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF MORE DETAILS ON NEW STA SYSTEM BEING DEVELOPED BY IHARA AND INFORMATION FROM USN CONCERNING RAMIFICATIONS OF SSN VISIT DEFERRAL, EMBASSY PREPARED TO ESCALATE PRESSURES SO FAR APPLIED. OPTIONS INCLUDE DEMARCHES BY CHARGE TO MINISTERS CONCERNED, FORMALIZATION OF US CONCERNS THROUGH VARIETY OF DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS, AND DEPARTMENT CONVOCAION OF JAPANESE EMBASSY REPS IN WASHINGTON TO REINFORCE OUR EFFORTS.
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